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***SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD***

Washington, DC 20423

Office of Economics, Environmental Analysis, and Administration

May 18, 2004

Mr. David Coburn, Esq.  
Steptoe & Johnson, LLP  
1330 Connecticut Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20036-1795

Re: STB Finance Docket No. 34284, Southwest Gulf Railroad Company –  
Construction and Operation Exemption – Medina County, TX

Dear Mr. Coburn:

Thank you for your letter dated May 4, 2004 in which you provide information regarding the feasibility of using trucks to transport limestone aggregate from Vulcan Construction Materials, LP's proposed quarry to the Union Pacific Railroad Company rail line at Dunlay, Texas, if Southwest Gulf Railroad Company's proposed rail line were not built. In your letter you mention that trucks would operate 20 hours per day, 250 days per year, when the quarry produces 5 million tons of aggregate per year. Could you please provide us with the hours of operation (the specific 20-hour time period) for these trucks?

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 565-1539.

Sincerely,

*Rini Ghosh*

Rini Ghosh  
Section of Environmental Analysis